

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 181742 TOSEC 080059 POSS DUPE
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY AF/S: JDAVIDOW:GFH
APPROVED BY AF - RICHARD MOOSE
S/SO -RPERITO

-----055176 030442Z /10

O 030320Z AUG 77 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 181742 TOSEC 080059

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: RH, UK, PDEV

SUBJECT: FOREIGN SECRETARY OWEN'S MESSAGE TO THE SECRETARY

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF LETTER TO SECRETARY VANCE
FROM FOREIGN SECRETARY OWEN DELIVERED TO DEPARTMENT
OF STATE LATE AFTERNOON AUGUST 2:

QUOTE DEAR CY, I AM RELUCTANT TO BOTHER YOU ON
YOUR VITALLY IMPORTANT ROUND OF VISITS BUT JOHNNY
GRAHAM HAS MENTIONED TO ME ON HIS RETURN FROM
WASHINGTON THAT DICK MOOSE SPOKE TO HIM ON YOUR
BEHALF ABOUT THE QUESTION OF ANDY YOUNG'S ACCOMPANYING
ME TO SOUTH AFRICA. JUST IN CASE THERE IS ANY
MISUNDERSTANDING BETWEEN US I WANT YOU TO KNOW
THAT I AM VERY CONTENT TO GO TOGETHER WITH ANDY
TO PRETORIA SHOULD IT BE NECESSARY FOLLOWING
BOTHAS VISIT. I LIKE HIM IMMENSELY AND THERE
ARE NO PERSONAL DIFFICULTIES IN WORKING WITH HIM
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AT ALL.

QUOTE I AM SENDING YOU A SEPARATE MESSAGE ABOUT
THE DETAILED ASPECTS OF OUR OFFER. BUT I MUST

STRESS TO YOU MY GRAVE ANXIETY ABOUT THE CONTINUING
WEAKENING OF THE PACKAGE IN RELATION TO THE WAY

IT WILL BE SEEN BY THE WHITE RHODESIANS. IT SEEMS WE ARE GOING BACK ON WHAT WE BOTH AGREED WITH THE PRESIDENT. IF WE DO NOT MAKE THE LINK BETWEEN THE MAINTENANCE OF THE CONSTITUTION AND THE CONTINUATION OF THE ZIMBABWE DEVELOPMENT FUND, AT LEAST SO FAR AS OUR TWO COUNTRIES ARE CONCERNED, I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT OUR PROPOSALS HAVE A CHANCE OF BEING WELCOMED EVEN BY MODERATE OPINION IN MY COUNTRY. IT IS NOT FOR ME TO JUDGE OPINION IN YOUR COUNTRY BUT I IMAGINE THAT IT IS NOT THAT DIFFERENT. I RECOGNIZE THAT BEING TOO EXPLICIT ABOUT THE QUESTION OF PENSIONS CAUSES PROBLEMS FOR YOU. BUT WE MUST BE IN A POSITION TO EXPLAIN THE IMPLICATIONS PUBLICLY OF OUR PENSION PROPOSALS FOR THOSE AFRICANISED, AND OUR EXPROPRIATION PROVISIONS, IN TERMS OF GUARANTEED REMITTABILITY IN FOREIGN EXCHANGE.

QUOTE FINALLY, I HAVE BEEN THINKING VERY CAREFULLY ABOUT THE RESIDENT COMMISSIONER. HIS PERSONALITY AND EXPERIENCE WILL BE CRUCIAL TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR VENTURE AND I AM COMING TO BELIEVE THAT I SHOULD CONSIDER A SENIOR AND DISTINGUISHED BRITISH MILITARY FIGURE, RECENTLY RETIRED FROM THE FORCES, TO GIVE SOME REASSURANCE OVER LAW AND ORDER. WE CAN DISCUSS THIS WHEN WE MEET BUT I THOUGHT YOU
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PAGE 03 STATE 181742 TOSEC 080059 POSS DUPE

MIGHT LIKE TO HAVE SOME INDICATION OF MY THINKING.
YOURS EVER, DAVID. UNQUOTE.

2. COMMENTS: (A)DICK MOOSE PROVIDES THE FOLLOWING BACKGROUND WITH REFERENCE TO THE FIRST PARAGRAPH OF OWEN'S LETTER:

ON THE BASIS OF HIS LAST CONVERSATION WITH YOU, DICK RAISED WITH GRAHAM THE PROS AND CONS OF ANDY'S ACCOMPANYING OWEN TO MEET VORSTER. HE SUGGESTED TO GRAHAM THAT ANDY'S PARTICIPATION IN THE VORSTER MEETING COULD BE IMPORTANT IN REASSURING THE FRONT-LINE PRESIDENTS WITH REGARD TO DEALINGS WITH VORSTER. MOOSE MADE IT QUITE CLEAR TO GRAHAM THAT HE WAS NOT SUGGESTING THAT OWEN REVERSE HIS POSITION IF OWEN BELIEVED ANDY'S PARTICIPATION WOULD BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE. WE SIMPLY WANTED TO BE SURE THAT THE BRITISH GAVE THOUGHT TO THIS LINE OF REASONING. MOOSE MADE CLEAR TO GRAHAM THAT YOU WOULD RESPECT

OWEN'S PREFERENCE IN THIS MATTER. WE SEE NO NEED TO MAKE A DECISION ON THE POINT NOW. IT CAN BE

DISCUSSED IN LONDON.

B. OWEN REFERS TO SEPARATE MESSAGE TO YOU
CONCERNING THE DETAILED ASPECTS OF THE SETTLEMENT
OFFER. WE HAVE NOT RECEIVED THAT MESSAGE AS YET
BUT BRITISH EMBASSY HAS PROVIDED US REVISED
DRAFT OF THE BASIC PUBLIC STATEMENT OF THE US-UK
SETTLEMENT PROPOSALS. WE WILL BE DISCUSSING NEW
DRAFT WITH UK EMBASSY OFFICIALS EARLY AM, AUGUST 3.

C. A REVIEW OF THE NOTES OF OWEN'S MEETING WITH THE
PRESIDENT DOES NOT SUPPORT HIS ASSERTION THAT "IT
SEEMS THAT WE ARE GOING BACK ON WHAT WE BOTH AGREED
WITH THE PRESIDENT." CHRISTOPHER
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PAGE 01 STATE 181742
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

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DRAFTED BY AF/S:JDAVIDOW:DH
APPROVED BY AF/S:DPETTERSON
AF-WEDMONDSON
S/S-O:JETHYDEN

-----123013 052101Z /66

O 052005Z AUG 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 181742

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 18742 ACTION USDEL SECRETARY 03 AUG 77

QUOTE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOSEC, GOVERNMENT REFORM, COMPENSATION, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, MINISTERIAL VISITS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 03-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE181742
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JDAVIDOW:GFH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X2
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770277-0678
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197708100/aaaadhow.tel
Line Count: 284
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
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Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1401955
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FOREIGN SECRETARY OWEN'S MESSAGE TO THE SECRETARY
TAGS: PDEV, PSDC, RH, UK, US, (VANCE, CYRUS R), (YOUNG, ANDREW), (OWEN, DAVID A L)
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/87b88c4e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
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EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
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